



SENTINEL



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Moving nowhere, but heading toward better health



Photo by Kevin Stabinsky

Cyclists enjoy an early Wednesday workout during an 8:30 a.m. spin cycle class at the Fort McPherson Wellness Center (Bldg. 60). The one-hour class, which began Monday, is offered Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Through a resistance dial on the bike, attendees are able to challenge themselves to meet their fitness needs. For the story and more photos, see pages 8 and 9.

AFAP committed to employment, Family support

Commander's Corner

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

commanding general
Installation Management Command



As assistant chief of staff for Installation Management, I have an important responsibility to oversee the Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) process, which is a program that enables Soldiers, Civilian employees and Family members to communicate quality of life issues to Army leaders.

Information provided through this process allows leaders the opportunity to affect changes that will lead to a more satisfied and resilient Army community.

Every month, subject matter experts from across the Army meet to analyze recommendations submitted through the AFAP process to determine if they are achievable. These recommendations will then be presented at the next annual General Officer Steering Committee in January. I have promised to regularly communicate our progress throughout the process. This month, we reviewed recommendations related to employment and Family support.

Issue 617 recommends providing greater visibility of qualified Wounded Warrior job applicants to federal hiring officials. The Civilian Human Resource Agency (CHRA) has made much progress with this issue. One accomplishment is their partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs to integrate the use of their veteran resume inventory into Army recruitment business processes.

Additionally, CHRA has developed:

- A Civilian Personnel On-Line (CPOL) Wounded Warrior webpage.
- A Wounded Warrior referral process.
- A Wounded Warrior and spouse Web-based

résumé inventory.

• A briefing that explains how to direct-hire Wounded Warriors. This briefing is now included in the mandatory new supervisor's training course.

DoD state liaisons and the Army have also made progress on Issue 524, which recommends granting unemployment compensation to military spouses who leave their jobs when accompanying service-members on a permanent change of station move. To date, 38 states provide unemployment compensation while the District of Columbia and Maryland evaluate eligibility on a case-by-case basis. Ohio and Tennessee have active legislation in progress to provide unemployment compensation. Outreach efforts are being focused on the remaining states to solicit their support for these dedicated military spouses and their Families.

Issue 556 is a recommendation to eliminate the financial inequities in the DoD child care fee policy due to a limited number of total Family income (TFI) categories. Work on this issue resulted in the addition of three new categories and an expanded fee range in each category. We are on track to achieve our school year 2012-2013 goal of reaching an Armywide single fee in each TFI category, which will result in more consistency and predictability for Families as they move from post to post.

Issue 639 recommends that Advanced Individual Training Soldiers who require exceptional Family member (EFM) services and have received an overseas assignment remain at their current installation until notification of EFM service availability and command sponsorship is granted by the over-

seas travel approval authority. As a result of this recommendation, a rapid revision to AR 608-75, (Army Exceptional Family Member Program), is in the process of being published. The revision directs that all Soldiers with EFMs will remain at their current installation pending notification of EFM service availability and command sponsorship from the overseas command.

Although we have made progress with some issues, we still have work to do on others. This month we will continue to analyze the attainability of the following issues:

- Authorizing 100 percent of the death gratuity to any person designated as a beneficiary by a DA Civilian employee killed in a military contingency operation (regardless of their relationship). Currently the law only recognizes spouses, children, parents or siblings as eligible survivors (issue 634).
- Establishing a centralized DoD leave donation bank for Civilian employees (issue 615).
- Aligning compensatory hours with standard overtime rates for Army Civilian employees (issue 649).
- Standardizing and enforcing the Total Army Sponsorship Program (TASP) by providing trained and available sponsors equipped with the information and referral resources needed for Soldiers and Families during times of transition (issue 609).
- Accounting for the unborn children of pre-existing pregnancies when calculating the transitional

See AFAP on page 3



Garrison Commander

Col. Deborah Broughton Grays

**Public Affairs Officer and
Command Information Officer**
Debi Sage

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AFAP continued from page 2

benefits for Family members of military personnel who were separated and discharged due to domestic abuse (issue 625).

- Coordinating with U.S. Citizen and Immigration Service for approval of DoD-administered fingerprinting and physical examinations (issue 515).

- Providing Army Exceptional Family Member Program enrollment eligibility for Reserve Component Soldiers (issue 650).

- Conducting a holistic review of Family Readiness Group fundraising in the active and Reserve components (Issue 652).

The Army is working the issues, but the Army Family Action Plan is your program. I encourage you to learn more about the AFAP process and follow the progress on current issues.

I invite you to visit the Army OneSource website at www.myarmyonesource.com and select the Family Programs and Services menu to activate the AFAP active issue search feature. Once there, you can search by keyword or issue number.

You can also search by subject area, demographic group or geographical area to see what we are doing to improve the quality of life for Soldiers, Civilian employees and Families.

Fort McPherson Tax Center to open

Maj. Bailey Brown

U.S. Army Garrison Staff Judge Advocate Office

The U.S. Army Garrison's Staff Judge Advocate Office will host a tax center from Feb. 1 until April 18.

The tax center will have some limitations on the types of services it can offer due to BRAC phase-down and personnel losses.

However, the center staff's goal is to provide the highest quality of service to all clients. Staff will accomplish that goal by closely monitoring their capabilities throughout the season.

For example, staff members will file all 1040EZ and 1040A returns for clients with incomes less than \$100,000 who are only taking the standard deduction. The center's staff will also file most 1040 returns for individuals and Families.

However, staff members will not be able to prepare complex returns involving trusts, home businesses, clients with four or more rental properties, sale of rental property, partnerships, S-corporations, other 1099-Misc income that will require a Schedule C, Health Savings Account deductions, self-employed SEP/SIMPLE/qualified plans, self-employed health insurance deduction, farm income/loss, domestic production deduction or the alternative minimum tax (for high income returns).

The center will be in Bldg. 52 on Fort McPherson and appointments will be available from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays. Walk-in appointments will be available for 1040EZ returns from 12:30 until 2:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. The center will be closed Fridays.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment call center staff at 464-2438



Man on the street:

*The Sentinel asked members of the community:
What do you think of the repeal
of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell?"*



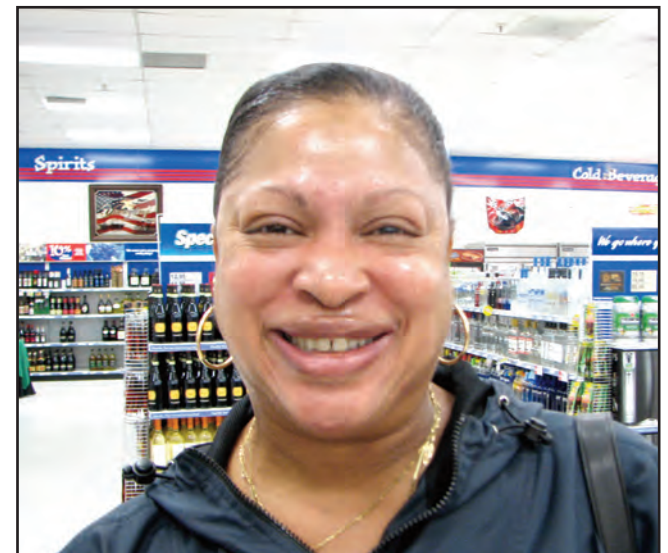
"I don't have an opinion on it. Those decisions are made by pay grades way above mine. Whatever they tell us to do, we'll do."

- Sgt. Maj. Randy Cyr
senior food supervisor
U.S. Army Forces Command G-4



"It is just a sign of more change brought on by our commander-in-chief. Personally, I accept it and, like everything else, you learn to work with it instead of against it."

- Sattf Sgt. Arthur Cagle, detailed recruiter
Atlanta Recruiting Battalion, Athens Company



"The ability to defend the country shouldn't be determined by one's sexuality as long as it doesn't affect morale, the unit or mission."

- Petty Officer 1st Class Anne Callahan
logistics specialist
Sixth Fleet, U.S. Navy

President signs 'Don't Ask' repeal act Into law

Karen Parrish

American Forces Press Service

President Barack Obama signed the Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act of 2010 into law Dec. 22.

"We are not a nation that says, 'Don't ask, don't tell,'" the president said at the signing ceremony in Washington, D.C. "We are a nation that says, 'Out of many, we are one.'"

"We are a nation that welcomes the service of every patriot," he added. "We are a nation that believes all men and women are created equal. Those are the ideals that generations have fought for. Those are the ideals that we uphold today, and now it is my honor to sign this bill into law."

The act repeals Section 654, Title 10, of the United States Code, which barred people who are openly gay, lesbian or bisexual from serving in the U.S. military. The signing, as the president pointed out, begins a process that will culminate in full repeal over the coming months.

The old policy remains in effect until Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Mike Mullen and the president certify the military's readiness to implement the repeal, the commander in chief said. "It's especially important for servicemembers to remember that," he added.

The president said he has spoken to all of the service chiefs, and all are committed to implementing the change swiftly.

"We are not going to be dragging our feet to get this done," Obama said. "As commander in chief, I am certain that we can effect this transition in a way that only strengthens our military readiness. People will look back on this moment and wonder (why it was) ever a source of controversy in the first place."

Mullen and Deputy Defense Secretary William J. Lynn attended the signing. Several former servicemembers discharged under the old policy also were present. Obama commended their efforts and others' in bringing about the change.



Photo by Chuck Kennedy

President Barack Obama signs repeal legislation in Washington, D.C., Dec. 22, officially overturning the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law he said required gay servicemembers to serve in secrecy and isolation.

"I also want to commend our military leadership," he said. "Ending 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' was a topic in my first meeting with Secretary Gates, Adm. Mullen and the Joint Chiefs. We talked about how to end this policy; we talked about how success in both passing and implementing this change depended on working closely with the Pentagon, and that's what we did."

Obama praised his defense and national security leaders for their oversight of the change.

"The courage and the vision of Secretary Gates, of Adm. Mike Mullen, who spoke from the heart and said what he believed was right, of Gen. James Cartwright, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs, and Deputy Secretary William Lynn," he said, adding, "Also, the authors of the Pentagon's review, Jeh Johnson (defense general counsel) and Gen. Carter Ham (commander, U.S. Army Europe), who

did outstanding and meticulous work — and all those who laid the groundwork for this transition."

The president said he has "every confidence" of the professionalism and patriotism of U.S. military members as repeal moves forward.

"With any change, there's some apprehension," Obama said. "Just as (servicemembers) have adapted and grown stronger with each of the other changes, I know they will do so again. I know that Secretary Gates, Adm. Mullen, as well as the vast majority of servicemembers themselves share this view ... based on their own experiences, including the experience of serving with dedicated, duty-bound servicemembers who are also gay."

Obama said he wanted to speak directly to gay men and women serving in the military.

See DADT on page 5

Congress extends Stop Loss application deadline

American Forces Press Service

The deadline for eligible servicemembers, veterans and their beneficiaries to apply for retroactive Stop Loss special pay has been extended to March 4, said DoD officials.

The deadline extension is included in the continuing resolution bill that

President Barack Obama signed Dec. 21, providing funding for federal government operations through March 4.

Congress established the retroactive pay to compensate military members who served involuntary extensions or whose retirement was suspended between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009. Eligible members and

their beneficiaries are required to submit a claim to their respective military service to receive the benefit of \$500 for each full or partial month served in stop-loss status.

The services estimate 145,000 servicemembers, veterans and beneficiaries are eligible. Because most of those eligible had separated from the

military, the services have engaged in persistent outreach efforts throughout the year.

Efforts, including direct mail, engaging military and veteran service organizations, social networks and media outlets, will continue throughout the period of eligibility, DoD officials said.

'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' remains in effect as Gates, Mullen tackle plan

Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, welcomed the Senate's vote Dec. 18 to repeal the so-called "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law, while emphasizing that the current law and policy will remain in effect until they and President Barack Obama certify the plan to implement it.

"Once this legislation is signed into law by the president, the DoD will immediately proceed with the planning necessary to carry out this change (not only) carefully and methodically, but purposefully," Gates said.

The legislation specifies that the repeal will take effect only after Gates, Mullen and Obama certify that new policies and regulations to implement it are "consistent with the standards of military readiness, military effectiveness, unit cohesion and retention of the armed forces," the secretary noted.

"As I have stated before, I will approach this process deliberately and will make such certification only after careful consultation with the military service chiefs and our combatant commanders and when I am satisfied that those conditions have been met for all the services, commands and units," he said.

Mullen said he looks forward to working with Gates and the service chiefs and said he's "committed to making sure that process is well-led, maintains our combat readiness and upholds our high standards."

In the meantime, Gates said it's important men and women in uniform understand that, although the vote means the policy will change, the implementation and certification process will take additional time.



Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Chad J. McNeeley
Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, discuss the public release of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" comprehensive working group report during a press briefing Nov. 30 at the Pentagon.

"In the meantime, the current law and policy will remain in effect," he said.

"Successful implementation will depend upon strong leadership, a clear message and proactive education throughout the force," Gates added. "With a continued and sustained commitment to core values of leadership, professionalism and respect for all, I am convinced that the U.S. military can successfully accommodate and implement this change, as it has others in history."

Mullen welcomed legislation over judicial repeal of the law, noting that it "preserves the military's prerogative to implement change in a responsible, deliberate manner."

He echoed Obama's conviction that repealing the policy is "the right thing to do."

"No longer will able men and women who want to serve and sacrifice for their country have to sacrifice their integrity to do so," the chairman said. "We will be a better military as a result."

DADT continued from page 4

"For a long time, your service has demanded a particular kind of sacrifice," he said. "You've been asked to carry the added burden of secrecy and isolation, and all the while you've put your lives on the line for the freedoms and privileges of citizenship that are not fully granted to you."

"You're not the first to have carried this burden," he continued. "For while today marks the end of a particular struggle that has lasted almost two decades, this is a moment more than two centuries in the making. There will never be a full accounting of the heroism demonstrated by gay Americans in

service to this country. Their service has been obscured in history; it's been lost to prejudices that have waned in our own lifetimes."

Gay servicemembers who will gain the right to serve openly when repeal is fully implemented, Obama said, will stand for all those who came before them who did not enjoy that right.

"You will serve as role models to all who come after," he said. "I know you will fulfill this responsibility with integrity and honor, just as you have every other mission with which you've been charged."

Edward Jones
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Holiday decoration winners announced

On Dec. 22, Col. Deborah Grays, U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) commander, Command Sgt. Maj. Karl Roberts, USAG command sergeant major, and Gwendolyn Thompson, housing manager, USAG Directorate of Public Works/Directorate of Logistics, presented three Families on Fort McPherson with awards in the Best Holiday Decoration Competition.

Fort McPherson winners included:

Area I - Home 410F

(right) Sgt. Willie Curtis, Community Based Warrior Transition team member, and his wife, Janet

Area II - Home 509B

(bottom left) Maj. Brian Yerby, operations officer, U.S. Army Reserve Command G-3/7, and his wife, Christine

Area V - Home 11E

(bottom right) Christopher Reddish, chief of Strategic Initiative Division, U.S. Army Forces Command, and his wife, Birgit



Photos by Gwendolyn Thompson



Army Reserve Careers Division gets new command sergeant major

Pfc. Chalon Hutson

Army Reserve Public Affairs Office

The Army Reserve Careers Division (ARCD), headquartered in Morrow, conducted a change of responsibility ceremony Dec. 13 with Command Sgt. Maj. Connie Commenia-Hill assuming the role as the top enlisted Soldier in the organization.

In her new assignment, Commenia-Hill will lead Soldiers with the responsibility of maintaining the manpower strength of the Army Reserve and assisting its more than 205,000 Soldiers and their units in meeting the assignment needs of national defense. As the command sergeant major for the organization, she will also oversee all enlisted aspects of the organization.

Commenia-Hill said although this is likely her last military assignment, she is ready to bring a lifetime of military and civilian experiences to her new position.

Commenia-Hill grew up on a sugar cane plantation in Chamberlain, La., until she was 13. She is the oldest girl of 11 children — nine girls and two boys — and said she grew up poor. After she graduated high school in 1972, she wanted to go to college, but couldn't afford it. However, Commenia-Hill said the life values her parents taught her, and the lifestyle she lived while on the plantation, drew her to enlist in the Army Reserve in 1974, where she graduated at the top of her Women's Army Corps (WAC) basic training class.

While in the Army Reserve, she eventually went to college and became the first in her family to earn a degree — a proud personal achievement and an example for those who followed. She earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Faulkner University in Montgomery, Ala., and a master's degree in Public Administration in 1994 from Troy State University in Atlanta. During her second graduation ceremony, Commenia-Hill said she took off her graduation cap and tassel and placed it on her father, to thank him for all he had done for her and her family throughout her life.

Since enlisting, Commenia-Hill served in several assignments, including multiple deployments — the latest to Kuwait with the Army Reserve's 828th Transportation

Battalion out of Livingston, Ala., in 2005 and 2006. She said she is glad to have been able to take care of Soldiers while overseas, adding it was the greatest assignment she has had to date.

Commenia-Hill said she is looking forward to her new position because she will be working with some of the best Soldiers in the Army Reserve, adding as she has done before in both her military and civilian experiences, she wishes to set a good example; not just to Soldiers, but her children and eight grandchildren.



Photo by Pfc. Jason Blackburn

Col. John R. Ligon (left), commander, Army Reserve Careers Division (ARCD), passes the division flag to Command Sgt. Maj. Connie Commenia-Hill as she assumes ARCD's senior enlisted leadership position Dec. 13 during the ARCD annual training workshop at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

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Going nowhere physically? Try spinning your wheels with cycling



Kievenaar watches Zena Taylor, a human resource specialist with the Third Army/U.S. Army Central Augmentation Company, before class to ensure Taylor’s bike is properly set. Besides helping students prepare for class by tightening foot clamps and adjusting seats and handlebars, Kievenaar also helps students make it through the class by offering encouragement and using upbeat music.



After nearly an hour of hard work, cyclists finish their exercise with a brief cool-down period.

Kevin Stabinsky
Sentinel assistant editor

Tired of spinning your wheels when it comes to getting in shape? Then try riding a stationary bike. Though riders won’t get physically far on such a bike, the Fort McPherson Wellness Center’s new spin cycle class, which began Monday, offers participants the chance to go far in terms of getting into shape. “It’s a good cardio workout, builds up strength in your legs and core, and also gives some upper body work,” said instructor Carolyn Kievenaar, who teaches six one-hour classes a week from 6:30 until 7:30 a.m., and 8:30 until 9:30 a.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Bldg. 60.

Kievenaar, spouse of Col. Butch Kievenaar, executive officer to the commanding general for U.S. Army Forces Command, has been teaching spin classes for the past 10 years and holds a spin cycle instructors certification from Maddog Athletics. Kievenaar said she has offered spin classes for free at installations she’s moved to in the past, and upon arriving at Fort McPherson last summer, wanted to continue to give back.

Although the desire was there, it took a while for funds to become available through the Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR), Kievenaar said.

“We just got bikes before Christmas,” she said, adding she chose to wait until after the New Year, when everyone was back from vacation, to begin teaching.

The timing worked out well, especially for those looking to follow through on the common New Year’s resolution to get in shape and lose weight.

Though not prompted by the New Year, Lt. Col. Barbara Edwards, executive officer, Inspector General Office, U.S. Army Reserve Command, said she decided to attend Wednesday’s class to help herself lose weight.

“Spinning is an excellent cardiovas-



Attendees at the Fort McPherson Wellness Center’s new spin cycle class push through a section of their workout Wednesday under the guidance of instructor Carolyn Kievenaar (right), a certified spin cycle instructor. The classes, which are offered from 6:30 until 7:30 a.m. and from 8:30 until 9:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, offer a chance for individuals to work hard while having fun.

Photos by Kevin Stabinsky

cular exercise,” she said.

It is also low impact, which was another selling point for Edwards.

“I have one bad knee. It (spinning) is not hard on the knees, like running,” she said.

Though not hard on the knees, spinning can be hard on the body, at least in terms of getting a good sweat and workout, Kievenaar said.

“It’s a hard class: hard but fun,” she said.

The challenge, though, is all personal, said Kievenaar, which allows anyone to participate. Challenge is added by alternating the resistance on the bike, controlled by a knob at the front of the bike just below the handle bars.

“You’re in charge of the resistance.

You do what you can do, but (you) do your best,” Kievenaar said, adding that if things get too challenging, a spinner can always scale back the resistance, sit back on the seat and just peddle.

Because of the challenging nature of the class, Kievenaar said she does her best to motivate attendees, both through music and by giving encouraging feedback throughout the class.

One of the motivating messages she told her class Wednesday, almost all beginning cyclists, was that just showing up and making it through the class was an accomplishment.

“You can never start any exercise and be great right away,” Kievenaar said. “You ride to your capability.”

For those who might be embarrassed by their capability, Kievenaar said now is the best time to start.

“Now mostly all (attendees) are beginners, so don’t worry,” she said, adding that people need to remember everyone is a beginner at some point.

Although everyone is welcome, there are only 10 bikes available per class, so Kievenaar said it’s important to get to class early to secure a bike. She also said although the average class size this week was only six people, classes will fill once word gets out.

Attendees are also encouraged to come early to help set up the bikes.

“It’s a new year, time for a new you,” Kievenaar said. “People should come.”



Pushing one’s limits and stretching the body...

Top left: Amy Tarvin, wife of Chap. (Col.) Michael Tarvin, command chaplain, U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), pushes herself through the standing climb portion of the class, which simulates climbing a large hill by slowly increasing resistance to make pedaling harder. After class, sore bodies got a chance to stretch.

Top right: Patti Mason, wife of Maj. Gen. Ray Mason, FORSCOM logistics director, follows Kievenaar’s example on stretching out the tricep.



After finishing their workout, the group poses for a picture as a sign of unity. The bonds built among members of the class will benefit everyone’s workout, Kievenaar said, as participants will feel like Family and feed off each other’s energy. Pictured (from left to right) are: Tarvin; Taylor; Kievenaar; Lt. Col. Barbara Edwards, executive officer, U.S. Army Reserve Command Inspector General Office; Rebekah Tarvin, Amy’s daughter; and Mason.

Going nowhere physically? Try s



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pinning your wheels with cycling



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Photos by Kevin Stabinsky

spin cycle class push through a section of their workout. Kievenaar (right), a certified spin cycle instructor. The classes, until 9:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, offer a

can do, but (you) do. Kievenaar said, adding too challenging, a scale back the on the seat and

challenging nature of said she does her attendees, both giving encourag- out the class. ting messages she Tuesday, almost all was that just show- t through the class ment. start any exercise away," Kievenaar ur capability."

For those who might be embarrassed by their capability, Kievenaar said now is the best time to start.

"Now mostly all (attendees) are beginners, so don't worry," she said, adding that people need to remember everyone is a beginner at some point.

Although everyone is welcome, there are only 10 bikes available per class, so Kievenaar said it's important to get to class early to secure a bike. She also said although the average class size this week was only six people, classes will fill once word gets out.

Attendees are also encouraged to come early to help set up the bikes.

"It's a new year, time for a new you," Kievenaar said. "People should come."



After finishing their workout, the group poses for a picture as a sign of unity. The bonds built among members of the class will benefit everyone's workout, Kievenaar said, as participants will feel like Family and feed off each other's energy. Pictured (from left to right) are: Tarvin; Taylor; Kievenaar; Lt. Col. Barbara Edwards, executive officer, U.S. Army Reserve Command Inspector General Office; Rebekah Tarvin, Amy's daughter; and Mason.

Community Briefs

'Cash and carry' sale

The U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) Office staff will host a "cash and carry" sale Jan. 18 through 20 at the Getaway club and Taylor Suites on Fort Gillem.

Items for sale include bedroom, lounge, bar, restaurant, dining and office furniture. Items from the Getaway's kitchen and ceiling fixtures will also be on sale. The first day of the sale is open to authorized ID card holders only. The second and third days are open to authorized ID cardholders and the general public.

For more information, call the USAG DFMWR staff at 464-3762.

PPP counseling

Members of the Raven Group have returned to Fort McPherson to assist garrison employees by reviewing Priority Placement Program (PPP) information and providing résumé counseling. Assistance will be provided at Bldg. 63 on Fort McPherson through at least Jan. 21.

Individuals will be seen by appointment only. Interested employees should contact their organization director, who can begin the appointment process by submitting the list of names to Paula Powell, administrative officer for the Directorate of Human Resources, at paula.pulliampowell@us.army.mil.

Raven Group members are also contacting several employees they'd met with before to provide follow-up assistance — those employees should be proactive in responding to Raven Group members' requests for information or additional meetings.

For more information, call Powell at 464-2764.

Retirement briefings move

Starting today, all U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Retirement Services Office (RSO) quarterly pre-retirement briefings will be held at the Fort McPherson Post Theater.

The next briefings are scheduled for Jan. 21, Apr. 15 and July 15 from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Married Soldiers are encouraged to have their spouse accompany them.

For more information, call Ethel Robinson, USAG

RSO officer, at 464-2879.

Assessment survey

The Army Education Center (AEC) staff asks employees to complete an Education Needs Assessment Survey to gather information for planning continuing education programs.

The survey will revolve around certificate programs, associate, bachelors and masters programs. The survey has to be conducted on a computer with a CAC card.

To take the survey, hold down the control key (Ctrl) on your keyboard and click on this link: <https://secureweb.hqda.pentagon.mil/Checkbox/Survey.aspx?s=704b656d5a494dc482cda48829b85be1>.

For more information, call Ralph Bremer, AEC branch chief, at 464-2702.

Weather information

As we enter the winter season, the possibility of inclement weather grows. When severe weather is forecast for the Atlanta area, stay informed by monitoring local media for updates.

Any changes to the Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem operating hours will be broadcast on the following stations:

Television:

- WSB-TV Channel 2 - ABC
- WAGA Channel 5 - FOX
- WXIA Channel 11 - NBC
- WGCL Channel 46 - CBS

Radio:

- WGKA 920 AM
- WGST 640 AM
- WNIV 970 AM
- WSB 750 AM
- WAOK 1380 AM
- WABE 90.1 FM

- WAMJ 107.5 FM
- WCLK 91.9 FM
- WFISH 104.7 FM
- WHTA 107.9 FM
- WKHX 101.5 FM
- WPCH 94.9 FM
- WPZE 102.5 FM
- WSB 95.5 FM
- WSTR 94.1 FM
- WVEE 103.3 FM
- WWVA 105.7 FM
- WZGC 92.9 FM

In addition, if operating hours change, an announcement will be made on the Fort McPherson Web site at www.mcperson.army.mil and on the U.S. Army Garrison's Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation Web site at www.mcpersonfmwr.com/.

Religious Services

Fort McPherson

9:19 a.m. ChapelNext
Post Chapel, Bldg. 42

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
Chapel Center, Bldg. 51

11 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
Post Chapel, Bldg. 42

11 a.m. Protestant Women of the Chapel
Thursday, Chapel Center, Bldg. 51

9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
Cantonment Chapel, Bldg. 240

Daily Mass
Monday through Friday at noon

Muslim Representative
Chap. (Maj.) Dawud Agbere
464-0411

Jewish Representative
Jimmy Bradford
770-461-4298

For more information on chapel programs, call 464-2004.

Fort McPherson Post Theater movies

Tonight: **Despicable Me (PG)**

Jan. 14: **Eat, Pray, Love (PG-13)**

Shows start at 7 p.m.
Bring your own refreshments.



The Sentinel is recyclable.

Leisure Activities

Ticket sales offered at the Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem Leisure Activities Center Ticket Office are final and include all applicable charges imposed on the Installation Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fund (IMWRF) by the vendor.

All sales are final.
To reserve tickets using Visa, MasterCard, American Express or the MWR card, call 464-4392 or 464-3677. Counter sales are conducted in Bldg. 135 at Fort McPherson Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The office opens at 11 a.m. the first workday each month.

Catholic dinner

The Fort McPherson and Fort

Gillem Catholic chapel staffs will host a special dinner and program Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. at the St. Gabriel Parish Center in Fayetteville.

The event is for former members of the Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem Catholic chapel congregations who have retired and live in the Atlanta metropolitan area.

For more information or to reserve a seat, call Chap. (Capt.) Fred Wendel, U.S. Army Garrison Catholic Chaplain, at 464-1259.

Alvin Ailey

Tickets are now available for “Alvin Ailey’s American Dance Theater” at the Fox Theatre.

Tickets cost \$49.50 for the performances Feb. 12 at 2 p.m. and Feb. 13 at

Submit your Community Briefs and Leisure Activities requests to mcperson_sentinel@conus.army.mil.

United Education
Institute
61031
3X5
FULL

Anderson Creek
Club
73096
3X10
FULL

CLASSIFIED
ADS

**CLASSIFIED
ADS**

**Scotland Co
Economic De
62671
6X5
B&W**

**Service
Directory
73052
6X5
FULL**

**RG Williams
Construction
74079
2X4
FULL**

**Vonda Craig
Insurance Agency
73071
6X10.25
FULL**



Parting shot:

Historic cannons moved from First Army headquarters



Photo by W. Wayne Marlow

Workers from Firebrand, Inc., remove a captured Confederate Civil War cannon, one of two, from in front of First Army headquarters on Fort Gillem Dec. 15. The cannons are being moved to Fort Benning, where they will be part of a Civil War anniversary display. The bronze, 12-pound Napoleon cannons were originally seized during the Battle of Atlanta on what is now the Georgia Institute of Technology campus. The cannons were placed at Fort McPherson when it opened in the 1870s, and were transferred to Fort Gillem in the early 1950s.